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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Hideo ABE, et al.

: EXAMINER: BEAUCHAINE, M. J.

SERIAL NO: 09/625,359

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3653

FILED: July 25, 2000

FOR: PAPER IDENTIFICATION COUNTER
AND PAPER IDENTIFICATION AND
COUNTING METHOD

ELECTION OF SPECIES

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated June 11, 2003, Applicants elect with traverse the species depicted by Claims 1-9, 16-34 and 42-44 of the present application (i.e., "Species I," as designated by the Examiner).

Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding requirements on the

grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a serious burden on the Examiner.

Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/625,359

Applicants: Hideo ABE, et al.

Filing Date: July 25, 2000

For: PAPER IDENTIFICATION COUNTER AND PAPER
IDENTIFICATION AND COUNTING METHOD

Group Art Unit: 3653

Examiner: BEAUCHAINE, M. J.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

ELECTION OF SPECIES

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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